

VERNON OPERATIONS P.O. BOX 58447 VERNON, CA 90058

July 29, 2003

Robin Holloway, WST-3 RCRA Enforcement Office U.S. EPA, Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Warning Letter of June 30, 2003

Dear Ms. Holloway,

Pursuant to the warning letter of June 30, 2003, (Frances Schultz, Manager, RCRA Enforcement Office), I shall address, individually, each of the three (3) items listed.

1: Submit a written Standard Operating Procedure that ensures that all containers that hold hazardous waste, both in satellite accumulation areas and 90-day storage areas, are labeled or marked clearly with the accumulation start date, the words "Hazardous Waste", the composition and physical state of the waste, the particular hazardous properties of the waste, and the name and address of the person producing the waste, as required by CCR 66262.34(f). Certify that all hazardous waste containers at your facility are properly labeled.

As indicated during your visit, Pechiney Cast Plate is experiencing a general transition regarding the department of Environmental, Health and Safety, and specifically in the area of environmental monitoring and compliance functions. Due to the departure of personnel since the purchase of the facility from Century Aluminum, some changes in production, and your visit, all the environmental programs are being reviewed and updated to assure that Pechiney maintains full compliance.

For example, to address item No. 1 above, please find attached, an excerpt from the Pechiney Hazardous Waste Management Program. This section includes direction that assures that a label containing the required information will be affixed to all containers holding hazardous waste.

In addition, also please find attached photographs indicating that this procedure is being enforced.

2: Certify that all containers of hazardous waste are kept closed, except when it is necessary to add or remove waste, as required by 66265.173(a).

Again, please refer to the attached excerpt under "Waste Stored in Containers (drums), Container Management". This directive is now being monitored and enforced.

3: Certify that the 55-gallon drum containing mineral spirits, paint, and water has been shipped offsite.

I have attached a copy of the manifest used for the transportation of this drum for disposal.

Robin Holloway Earl Clinkenbeard July 29, 2003

Considering the results of the walk-through inspection of March 26, 2003, it appears that the majority of the violations involved drum labeling and exceeding storage time limits. Addressing the three items in the warning letter, cited above, will address nearly all the cited issues. However, it is Pechiney's intent to address each and every item identified during the inspection. Each item will be documented to include the corrective action taken. This report will be completed within 30 days of this letter and forwarded to you.

If you require additional information or data, please don't hesitate to contact me at 323.584.1900 ext 7144.

Thank you for your explanations and assistance during your site visit.

Sincerely,

Earl Clinkenbeard, PE Engineering Specialist Pechiney Cast Plate PO Box 58447 Vernon, CA 90058 323.584.1900 ext 7144

Attachments:

- 1: excerpt from Pechiney Hazardous Waste Management Plan
- 2: photograph of label
- 3: copy of manifest for removal of mineral spirits, paint, and water

cc: A. J. Ursic, Consultant
Environmental Protection and Compliance, LLC
P.O. Box 1814
Upland, CA 91785-1814

Tom Reynolds, Plant Manager Pechiney Cast Plate

TIME LIMITS FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE ACCUMULATION AND STORAGE

Due to concern regarding large quantities of hazardous wastes being stored improperly and sometimes abandoned, the hazardous waste laws are very strict concerning the quantity of waste that may be accumulated and the length of time before it must be transported off-site for proper treatment or disposal. In order to apply the generator holding time rules applicable to hazardous wastes, the definition of the terms "accumulation" and "storage" should be understood.

- Accumulation: is the time that hazardous waste is initially collected by the generator until the storage time limit is initiated.
- Storage: is the holding of containerized or isolated hazardous wastes either at the point of generation or at a specifically designed on-site storage area. Storage begins when accumulation stops.

90 DAY AND 180 DAY STORAGE LIMITATION

The on-site storage time limitations for California hazardous waste generators are 90 days for large quantity generators (LQGs) and 180 days for small quantity generators (SQGs). LQGs and SQGs must initiate the respective time limitation when the containerize waste first reaches the established hazardous waste storage area.

Building No. 124 located on the extreme south end of Building 112A has been established as the 90-day hazardous waste storage area for Pechiney Cast Plate. This location is identified in Figure 1.

SATELLITE ACCUMULATION RULE

Notwithstanding the 90-day and 180-day storage limitations described above, a generator may hold at the point of generation or an accumulation area, up to 55 gallons of hazardous waste or one quart of acute or extremely hazardous waste for up to one year, provided all the following requirements are met:

- The generator must not hold the accumulated waste on-site for more than one year from the initial date of accumulation, or more than the applicable 90-day or 180-day storage time limitation from the date the 55 gallon or one quart limitation is reached, whichever occurs first.
- The generator must accumulate the waste in containers other than tanks at a location at or near the location where the waste is generated, and this satellite accumulation point is under the control of the operator of the process generating the waste.
- The generator must label the containers used for accumulating the hazardous wastes with the words "Hazardous Waste." In addition, the following must be included on the label: the type of waste being accumulated, the date when accumulation began (date when first drop/gram of hazardous waste is placed into the container), the physical state of the waste, the hazardous properties of the waste, and the name and address of the generator. Figure 2 shows the satellite accumulation label required for this application.
- The generator must maintain the satellite accumulation containers in a closed and sealed condition at the accumulation points, except for the short time periods when generated wastes are being added to the containers.
- Within three days (72 hours) of reaching the 55-gallon / one-quart quantity limitation, the generator must:
 - ➤ Date the holding containers with the date on which the limit was reached. This date becomes the 90-day / 180-day accumulation start date.

- Move the holding containers to the established on-site hazardous waste storage area that complies with the storage area requirements.
- Arrange for transportation of the waste off-site within the 90-day / 180-day time limitation.

Pechiney Cast Plate has established three (3) satellite accumulation areas throughout the facility. Satellite Accumulation Area No. 1 is located in the truck shop in the northeast corner of Building 104 and is used to accumulate oil from forklift trucks and the plate castors. Satellite Accumulation Area No. 2 is located in the mold shop in the northwest corner of Building 104 and is used to accumulate refractory materials from casting molds and tooling. Satellite Accumulation Area No. 3 is located in the maintenance crib in the center of Building 112A and is used to accumulate oil and oily/greasy rags from the maintenance and finishing departments. These satellite accumulation areas are identified in Figure 1.

HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATOR STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for on-site management of hazardous waste are included under 22 CCR §66262.34, which governs accumulation of hazardous waste. This regulation specifies that generators are responsible for compliance with the following:

WASTE STORED IN CONTAINERS (DRUMS)

The following physical storage requirements for hazardous wastes in containers apply to Pechiney Cast Plate since all the hazardous wastes are stored in drums, with the exception of refractory, casting headers, RCF, and bag house filterables:

- Storage Containers: Containers must be compatible with the wastes stored. If the container is
 damaged or leaks, the waste must be transferred to a container that is in good condition.
 Containers must be inspected at least weekly to discover any leaks in the containers or the
 storage area containment system. Containers used for transportation must comply with the U.S.
 Department of Transportation requirements, including those in 49 CFR §173.28.
- Incompatible Wastes: Wastes that are incompatible with other wastes shall not be placed in the same container, or an unwashed container, which previously held an incompatible material. A container holding a hazardous waste that is incompatible with any other waste or material must be separated from the incompatible material by a dike, wall, berm, or other device.
- <u>Ignitable or Reactive Wastes</u>: Wastes that may ignite or are reactive according to the criteria described in Section III above must be located at least 15 meters (50 feet) from Pechiney Cast Plate's property line.
- <u>Container Management</u>: A container holding hazardous waste must be kept closed during transfer and storage, except when it is necessary to add or remove waste. Containers shall not be opened, handled, transferred, or stored in a manner that may cause a leak or container failure.

WASTES STORED IN TANKS

Pechiney Cast Plate does not store hazardous wastes in tanks. Therefore, a description of this requirement will not be provided here. See 22 CCR §66265.190-202 for further information and details, if and when necessary.

CLOSURE OF FACILITIES

Pechiney Cast Plate does not anticipate entering into closure activities in the foreseeable future. Therefore, a description of this requirement will not be provided here.

CONTAINER LABELING REQUIREMENTS

As a generator accumulating hazardous wastes on-site, Pechiney Cast Plate must comply with the following labeling requirements for all containers containing hazardous wastes. Such containers must be labeled with the following information:

- The accumulation start date and/or the date the 90-day storage period commenced;
- The words: "Hazardous Waste;"
- The composition and physical state of the waste;
- Hazardous properties of the waste, ie: flammable, toxic, corrosive or reactive;
- The name and address of the Pechiney Cast Plate.

To meet this container-labeling requirement for on-site accumulation of hazardous wastes, Pechiney Cast Plate utilizes the DOT hazardous waste shipping label shown in Figure 3. Only the blanks pertaining to the above-described required information need to be filled-in on this label during on-site accumulation and storage. The remaining blanks must be completed at the time of shipment of the wastes off-site.

INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA

As a generator of hazardous waste in California, Pechiney Cast Plate must conduct periodic inspections of hazardous waste storage containers in all areas.

Weekly inspections are required for hazardous wastes stored in drums The purpose of the weekly inspections is to allow Pechiney Cast Plate to discover leaking containers or their deterioration and to verify the continued effectiveness of the containment system and adequacy of safety equipment, communications equipment, and compliance with other waste storage requirements.

Pechiney Cast Plate must document these weekly inspections, the content of the inspections, and any deficiencies found. The inspection record must also indicate actions taken to address all deficiencies.

To facilitate Pechiney Cast Plate in making appropriate inspections and documenting this regulatory obligation, the following reporting forms are used:

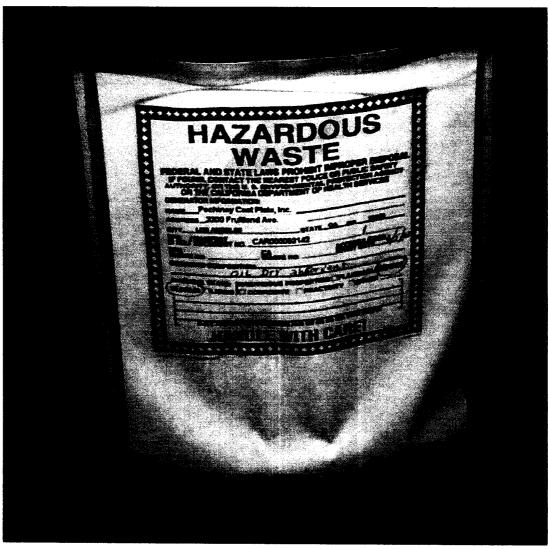
Inspection Log

Deficiency Report

General Hazardous Waste Storage Area Inspection Checklist

Hazardous Waste Container Inspection Checklist





in case of emergency or spill, call the national response center 1-800-424-8802: within California, Call 1-800-852-7550

DTSC 8022A (1/99) EPA 8700-22

See Instructions on back of page 6.

Department of Toxic Substances Control Sacramento, California

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ATTN' Earl Clinkendeare

CASE OF EMERGENCY OR STILL, CALL THE NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER 1-800-424-8802: WITHIN CALIFORNIA, CALL 1-800-852-7550



